

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the specification as follows:

**Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 4-5 with the following replacement paragraph.**

The invention relates to [[NEMS]] nanoelectromechanical devices and methods as applied to biological or medical

**Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 20-25 and page 3, lines 1-3 with the following replacement paragraph.**

On a much larger size scale (~~AFM, CFM~~) (Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM), CFM) work in several groups has been directed at analyzing the forces exerted by interactions between single molecules, ranging from hydrogen bonds and antibody-antigen interactions to covalent bonds. AFM cantilevers, decorated with biomolecules and interacting with derivatized surfaces or with derivatized magnetic beads, demonstrate forces of ordre 100pN for an antigen-antibody interaction and ~1-10nN for a covalent bond. These watershed experiments show the feasibility of measuring chemical events at the stochastic limit, but also offered evidence of the difficulty of harvesting this potential in a small, portable and robust device.